
Collection Turnover Rate - SFY 2005

Turnover Rate measures the activity of a library's collection, indicating the number of times each unit of library material would have circulated during the year if circulation had been spread evenly throughout the collection. It is calculated by dividing the library's total annual circulation by total library holdings.

Factors that Influence the Measure

- Increase or decrease in the annual circulation
- Circulation policies--loan period, fines
- Library acquisitions and collection development policies
- Special programs--prizes, reading program, etc.
- Community awareness of library service
- Library hours of service
- Number of library users
- Age, condition, and size of the library's collection
- Physical arrangement and convenience of library facilities

Interpretation and Use

This measure related strongly to the goals each library has set for meeting the service needs of its community. A library which emphasizes the circulation of popular reading materials will have a higher Turnover Rate than a library which emphasizes subject depth in its collection and has an extensive reference collection.

